

Top Gun

CARTEL #2



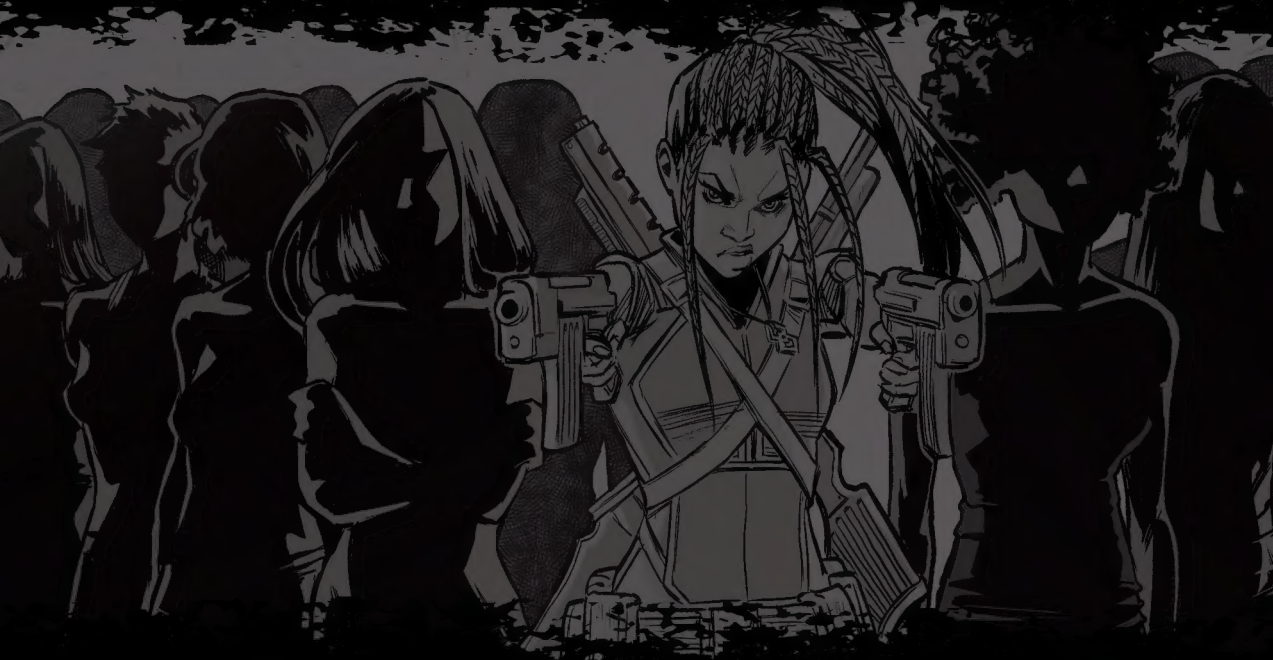
TOP GUN
25
YEARS

MARC BERNARDIN • ADAM FREEMAN • ROSI KAMPE • BRAD SIMPSON

THE FUTURE OF COMICS
25
years
EST. 1997

Genius

CARTEL



WRITERS

Marc Bernardin & Adam Freeman

COLORIST

Brad Simpson

EDITORS

Elena Salcedo & Vince Longo

COVER

Rosi Kampe

ARTIST

Rosi Kampe

LETTERER

Troy Peteri

PRODUCTION

Carey Hall



For Top Cow Productions, Inc.

For Top Cow Productions, Inc.

Marc Silvestri - CEO

Matt Hawkins - President & COO

Elena Salcedo - Vice President of Operations

Henry Barajas - Director of Operations

Vincent Valentine - Production Manager

Dylan Gray - Marketing Director

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Chris Ross - Director of Digital Sales

Jeff Stang - Director of Specialty Sales

Kat Salcedo - Director of PR & Marketing

Bramwyn Bigglestone - Controller

Kelli Rogers - Senior Accounting Manager

Sue Korpela - Accounting & HR Manager

Draw Gill - Art Director

Heather Boardman - Production Director

Leigh Thomas - Print Manager

Tyler Ramos - Traffic Manager

Wahid Skelly - Publicist

Aly Hoffman - Events & Conventions Coordinator

Sasha Head - Sales & Marketing Production Designer

David Brothers - Branding Manager

Melissa Gifford - Content Manager

Drew Fitzgerald - Publicity Assistant

Vincent Kahue - Production Artist

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Ryan Brewer - Production Artist

Gibby Kim - Direct Market Sales Representative

Emilia Haulista - Digital Sales Representative

Lance Givler - Accounting Analyst

Chloe Ramos-Peterson - Library Market Sales Representative

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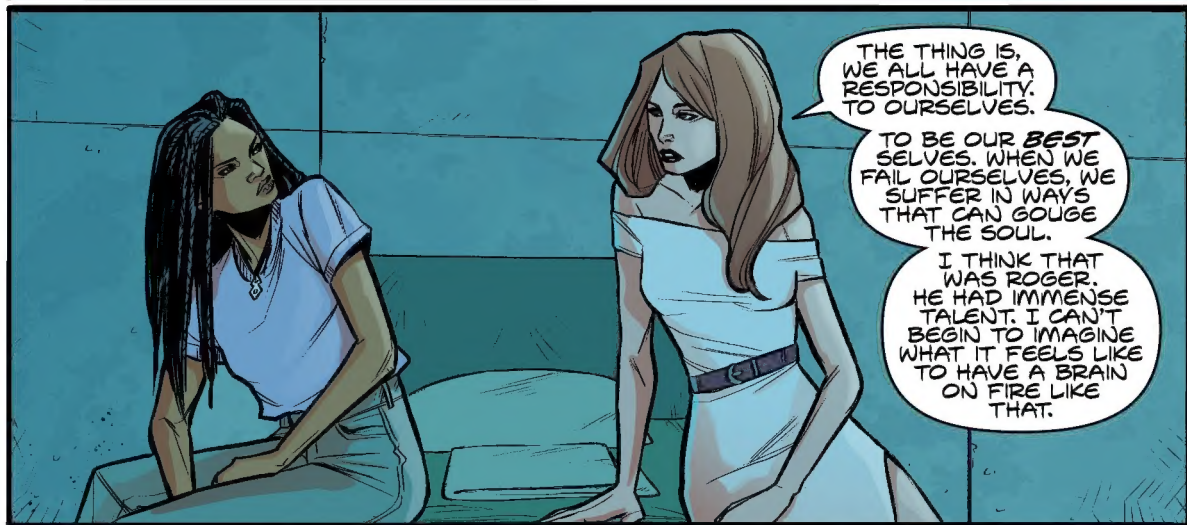
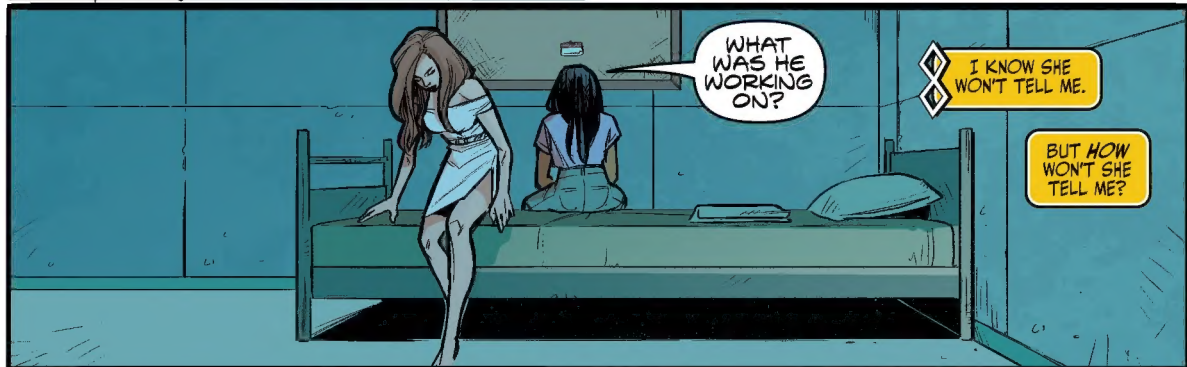
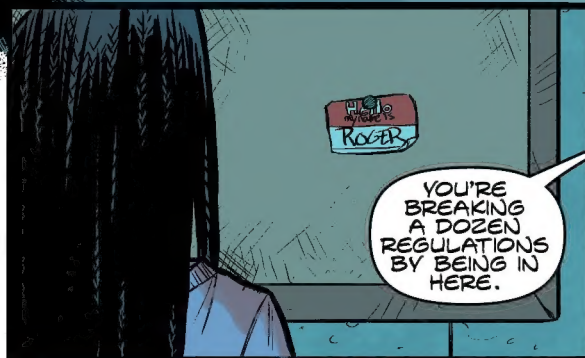
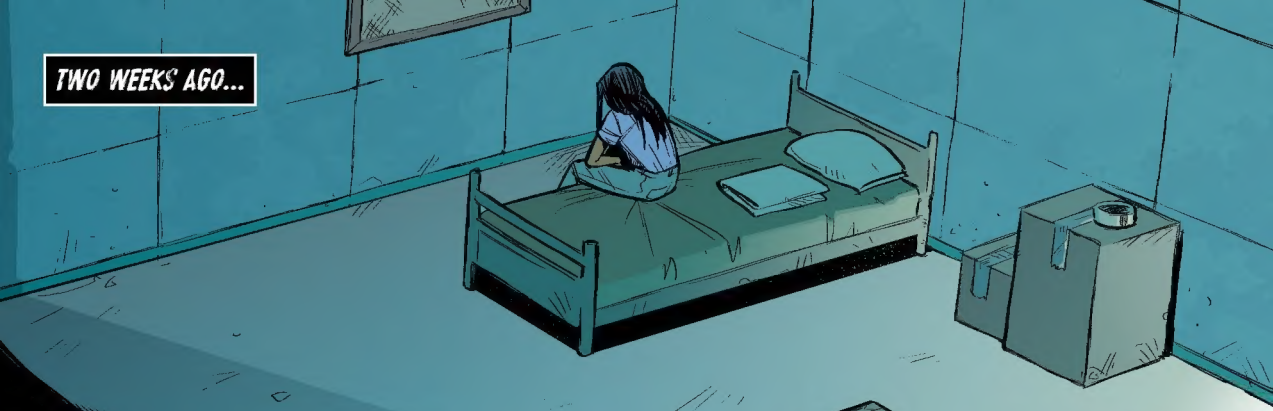


I SAID NO.

I SAID I WOULDN'T
BE THEIR TOOL.

AND YET,
HERE I AM.

TWO WEEKS AGO...



The Siege
of Los
Angeles.

The gangs of L.A.,
united under one
military mastermind.

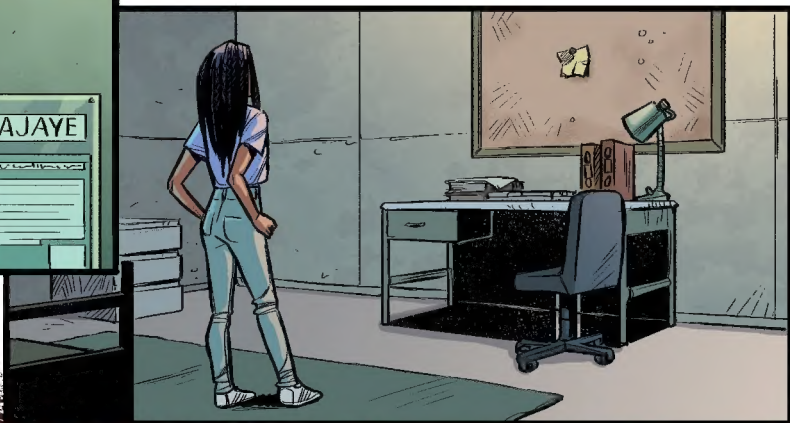
17-year-old
Destiny Ajaye.

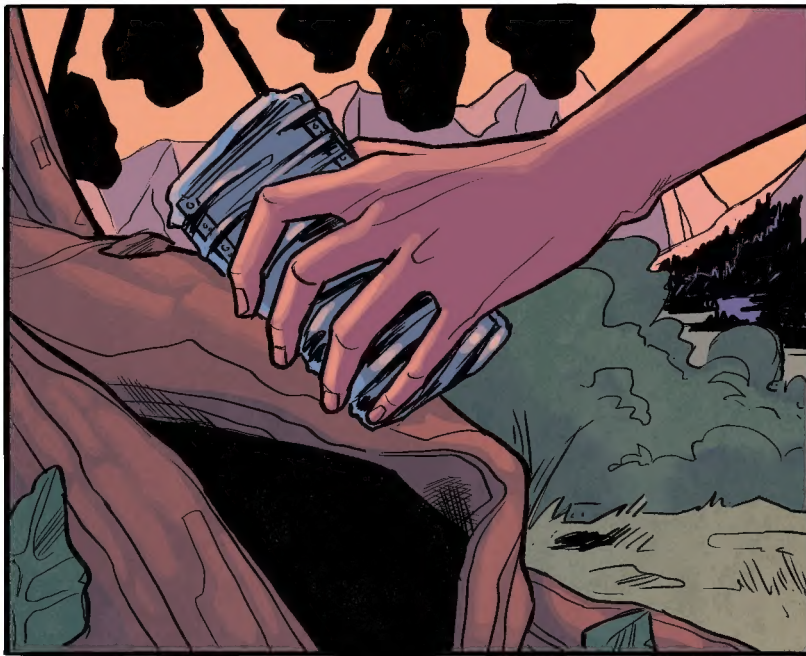
The world thinks her dead, but for the
last nine months she has been a "guest" of the
Madrasa Institute. A think tank for prodigies
with gifts the government finds...advantageous.

Isolated from her classmates
and those who govern, she
made a connection with only
one person, Roger, a young
computer savant.

And now he
is dead.

In truth, Destiny is
realizing, everyone
she cares about ends
up dead. Eventually.







ONLY SOMEONE SO INTIMATE WITH THE DIGITAL LANDSCAPE WOULD RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO BE OFF THE GRID.

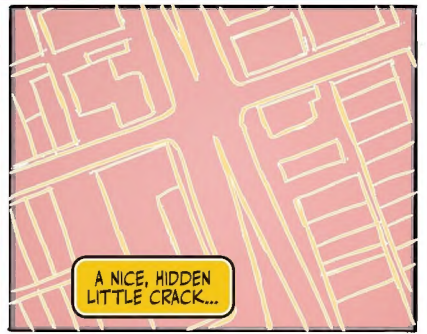
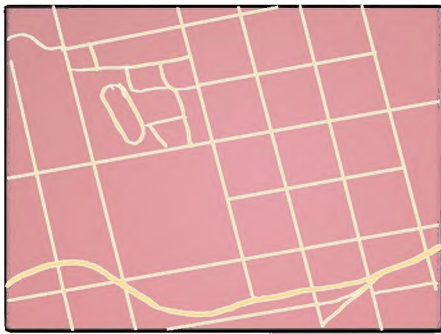
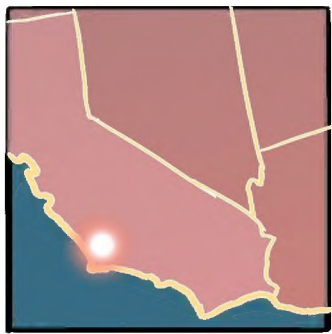
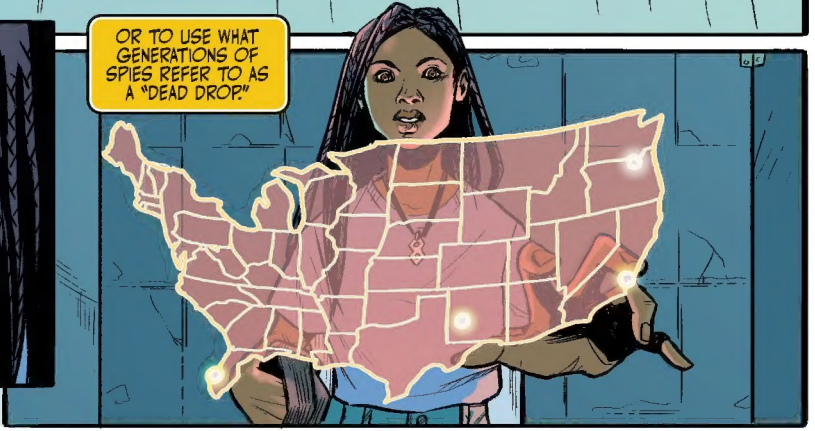


NO NETWORK. NO DISCERNIBLE IP ADDRESS. NO TRACEABLE SIGNAL.

SOMEPLACE QUIET. AWAY FROM PRYING EYES. TO THINK.



OR TO USE WHAT GENERATIONS OF SPIES REFER TO AS A "DEAD DROP."



A NICE, HIDDEN LITTLE CRACK...



...TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.



I HAVE BECOME THE VERY
THING I SPILLED BLOOD
TO FIGHT. A SYMBOL.

SYMBOLS
REPRESENT
POWER.

POWER
CORRUPTS.

MARKET

ROGER'S
MESSAGE IS
CLEAR.

TIP THE
SCALES.

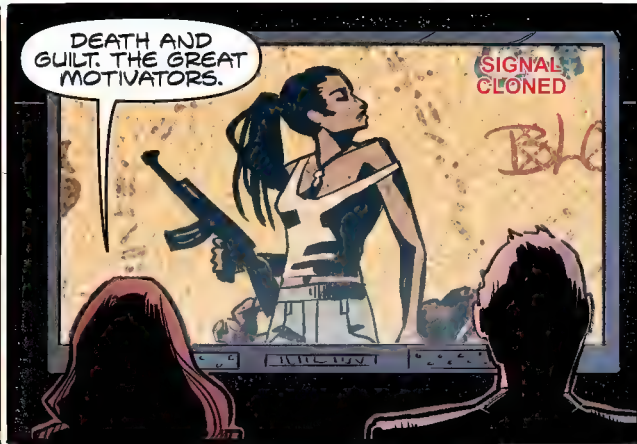




ROGER AND I
HAVE OUR OWN
MISSION.

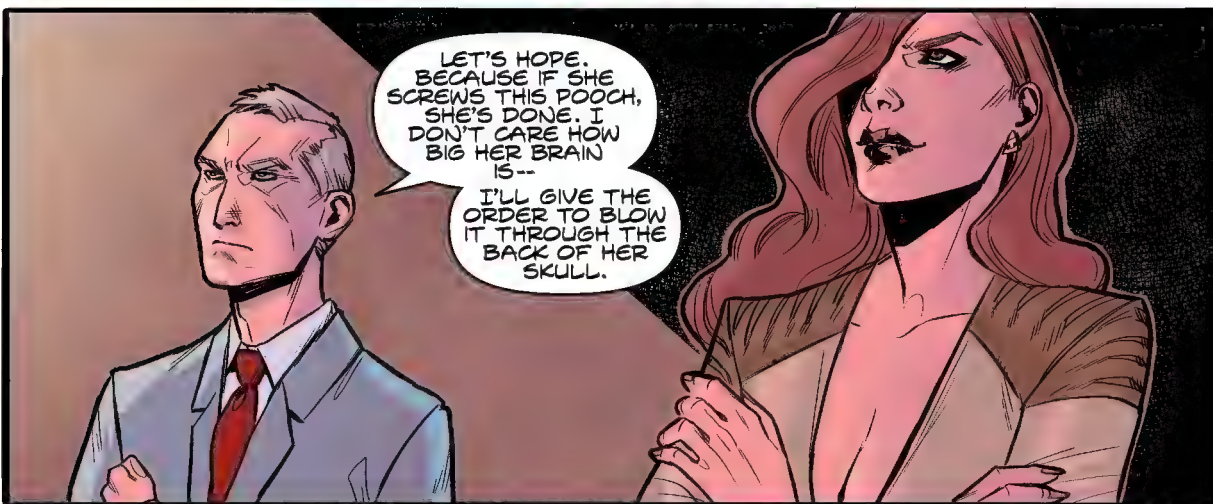


ETA 0200!
AGAIN. ETA
0200!

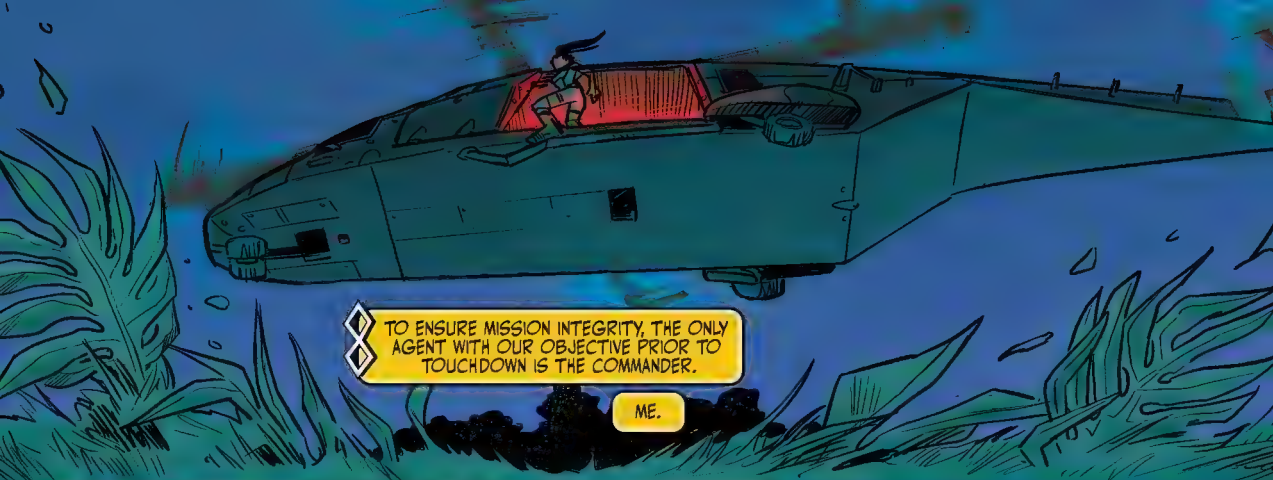


DEATH AND
GUILT. THE GREAT
MOTIVATORS.

SIGNAL
CLONED



LET'S HOPE.
BECAUSE IF SHE
SCREWS THIS POOCH,
SHE'S DONE. I
DON'T CARE HOW
BIG HER BRAIN
IS--
I'LL GIVE THE
ORDER TO BLOW
IT THROUGH THE
BACK OF HER
SKULL.



TO ENSURE MISSION INTEGRITY, THE ONLY AGENT WITH OUR OBJECTIVE PRIOR TO TOUCHDOWN IS THE COMMANDER.

ME.



RAMBLERS, LET'S GET RAMBLIN'.



WE HUMPH IT FOUR KLIKKS SOUTH BY SOUTH EAST.

I PUSH THEM HARD. WE ARRIVE 17 MINUTES BEFORE OUR ETA.

LOS ZETAS.



EVEN THE MEXICAN CARTELS NEED A MARKETING STRATEGY. A WAY TO ENSURE "BRAND LOYALTY."

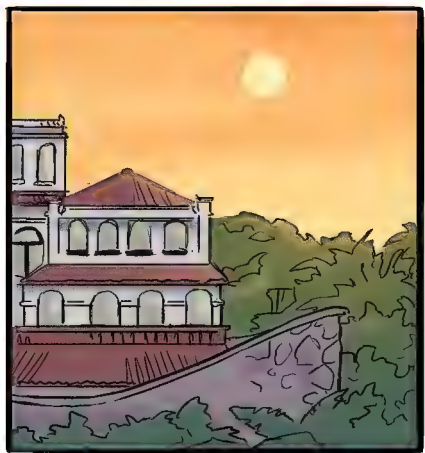
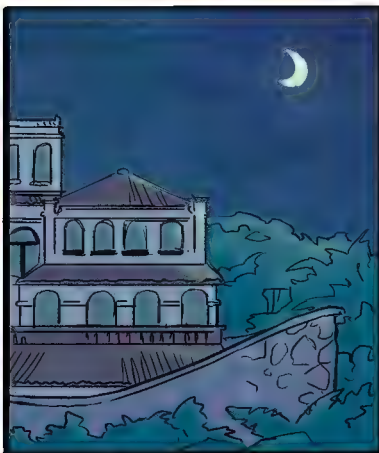
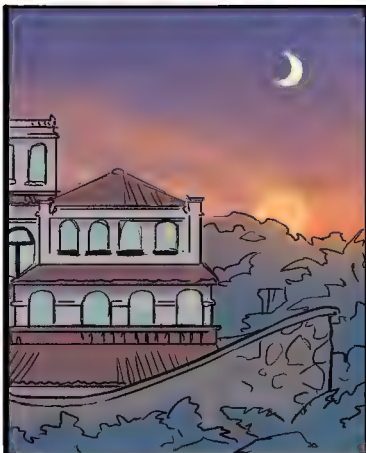
THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR MARKET THEMSELVES AS "PROTECTORS OF THE PEOPLE."

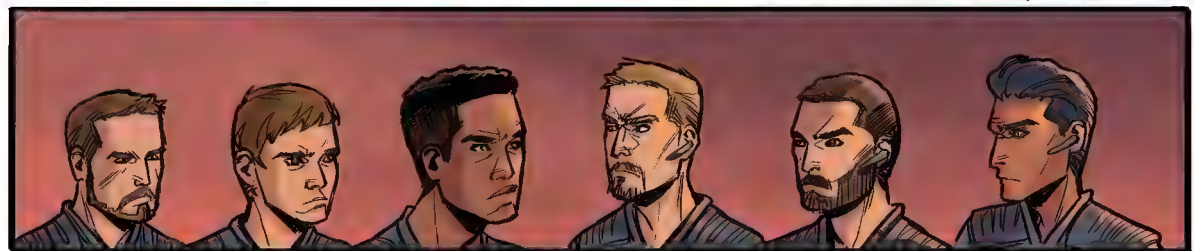
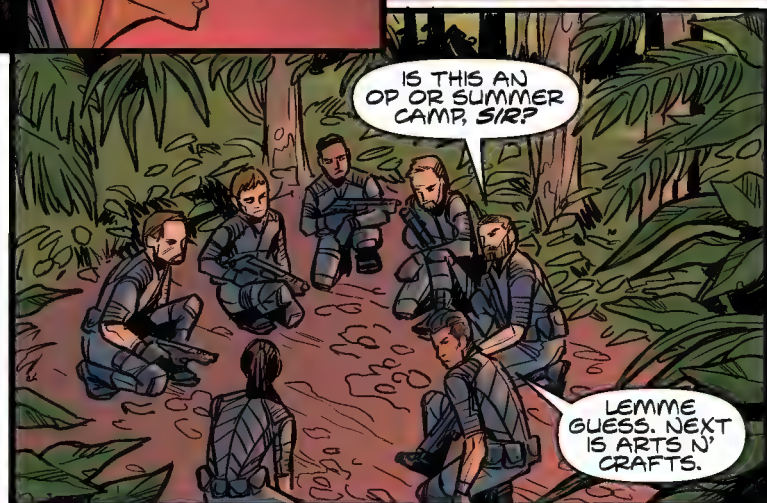
THE GULF CARTEL'S BRAND IS THE "GATEWAY TO TEXAS."

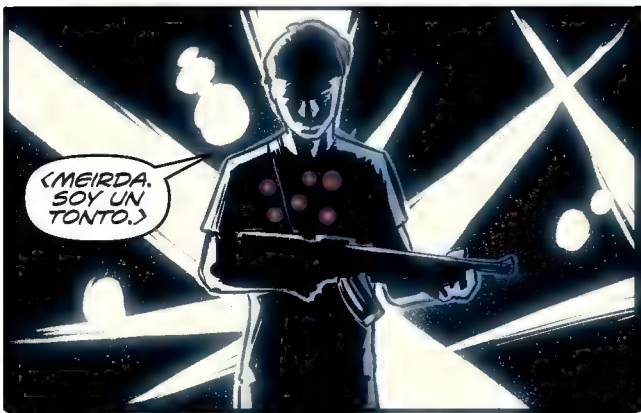
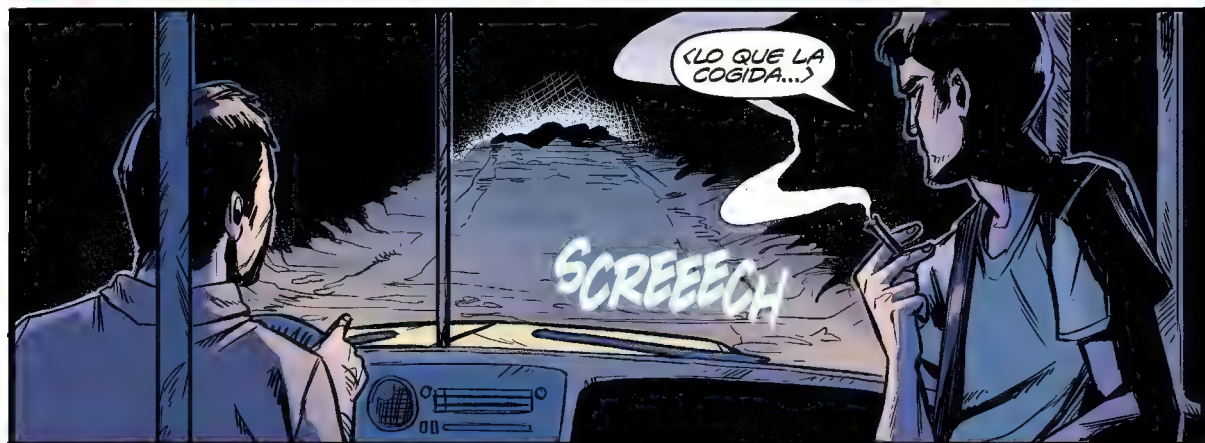
LOS ZETAS? WELL, LOS ZETAS WAS FORMERLY THE MILITARY BRANCH OF THE GULF UNTIL THEY STAGED A BLOODY COUP AND SPLINTERED.

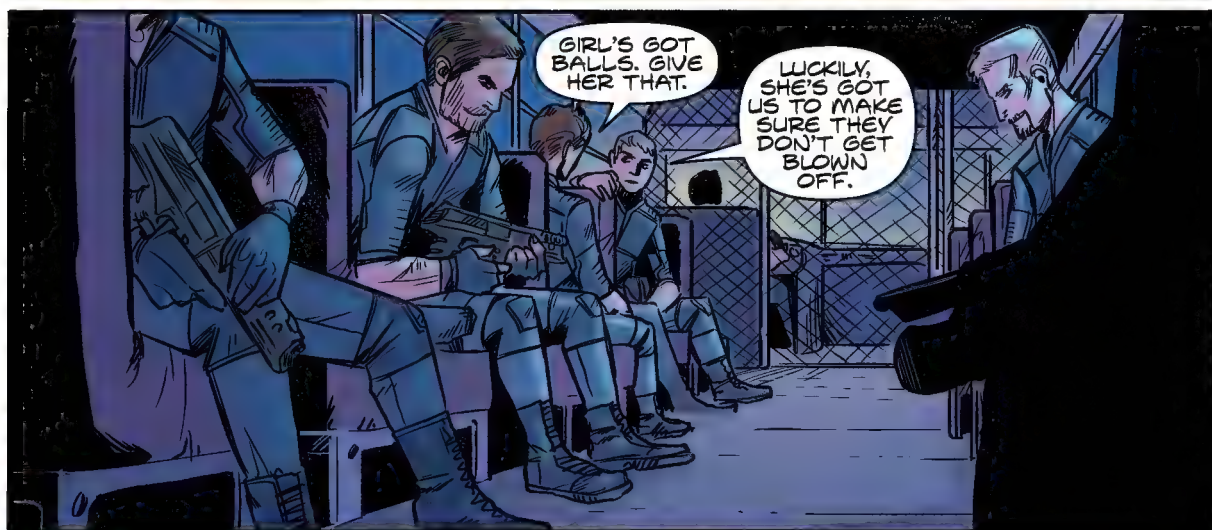
THEIR BRAND IS SIMPLE. FEAR. BEHEADINGS, TORTURE, RAPE, BOMBINGS -- PURE UNADULTERATED PSYCHOSIS.

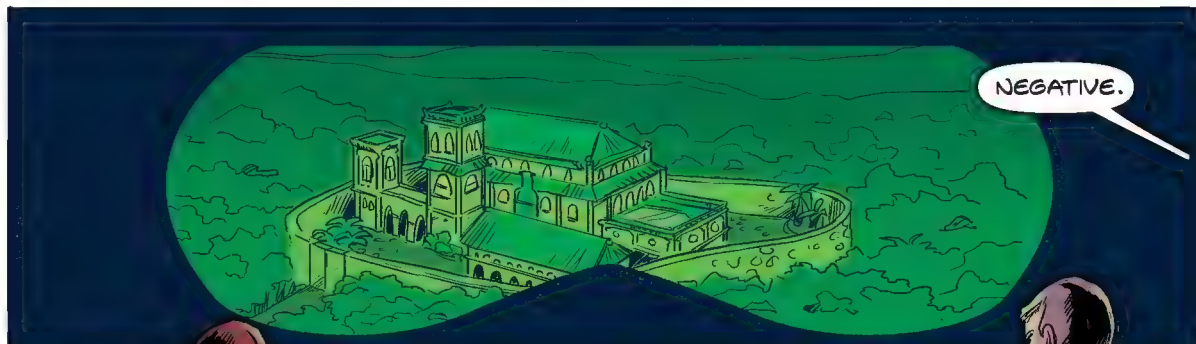
AKA "DON'T FUCK WITH US."



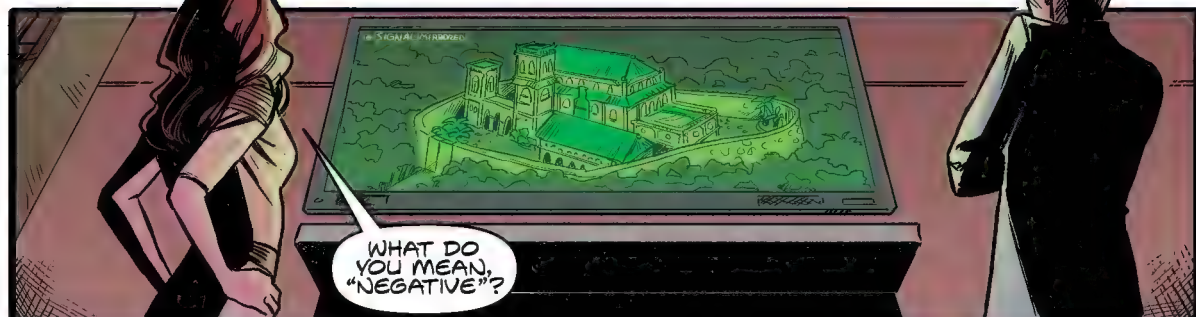








NEGATIVE.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NEGATIVE"?



QUIETER THAN A DEAF MAN'S FUNERAL. TWENTY-THREE HEAT BLOOMS. ZERO ACTIVITY.

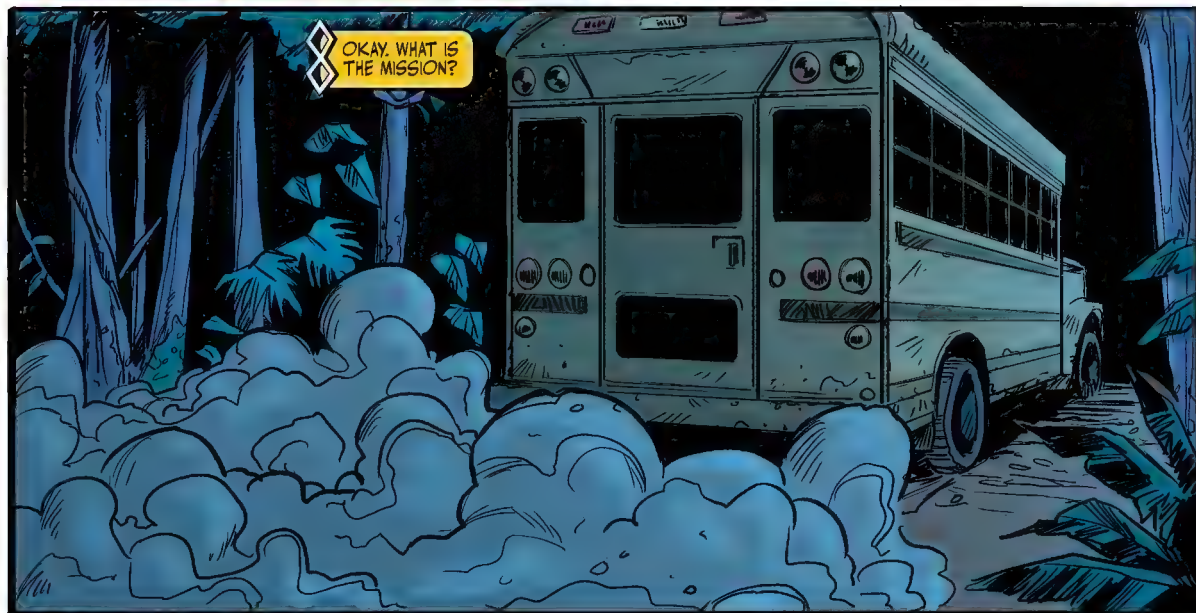
TARGET HAS NOT BEEN NEUTRALIZED.



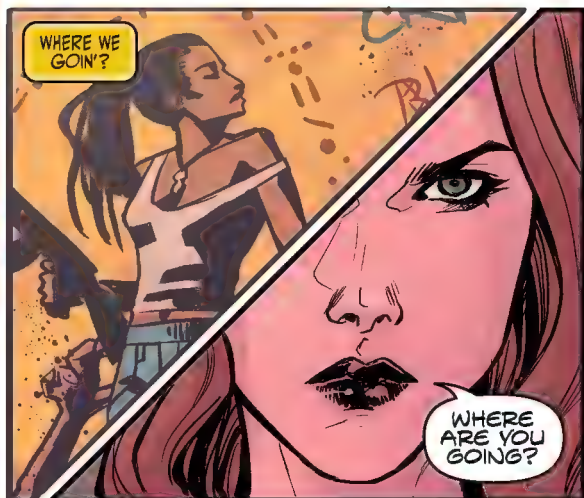
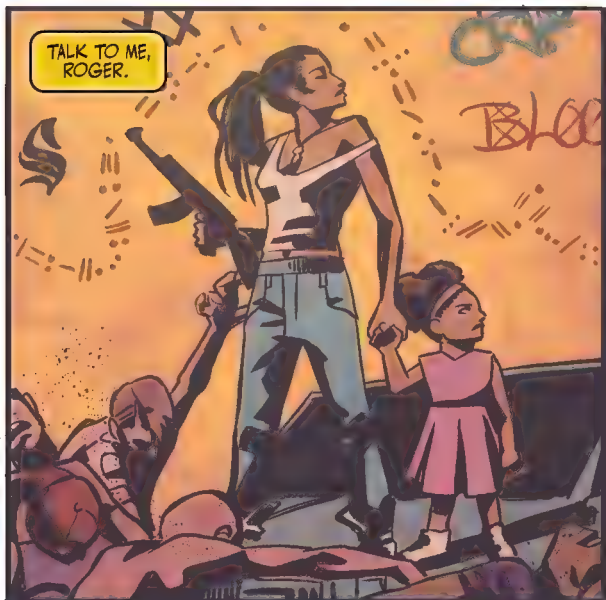
GUERRERO'S STILL ALIVE. YOU DON'T SAY.

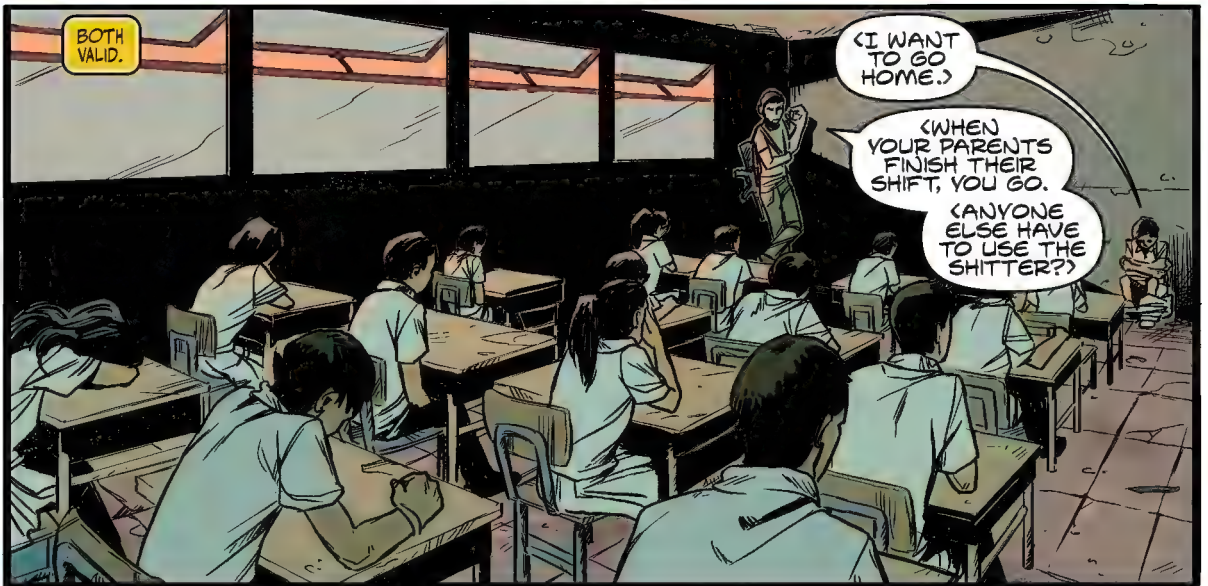
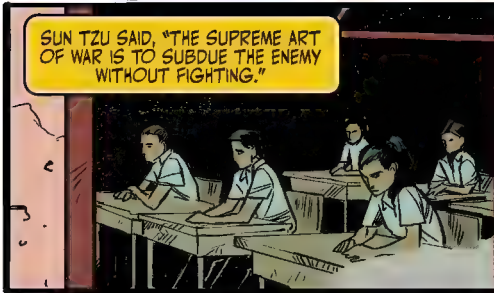
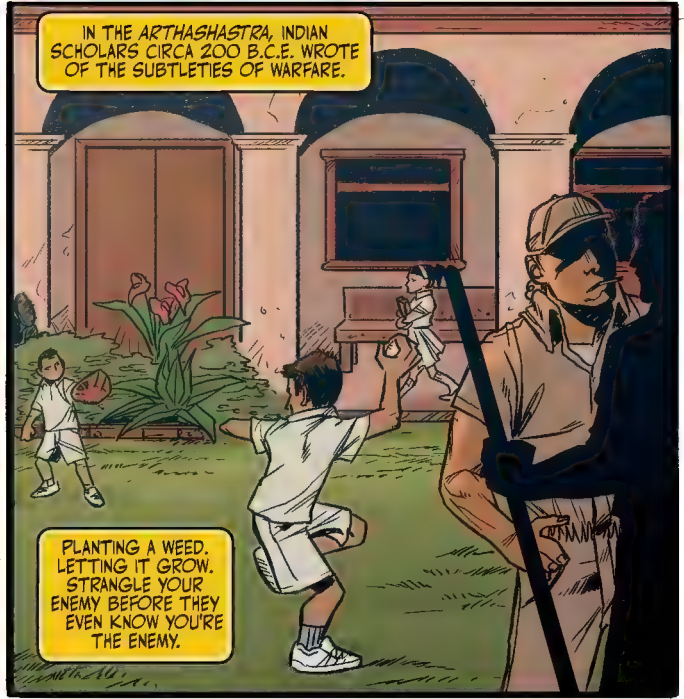
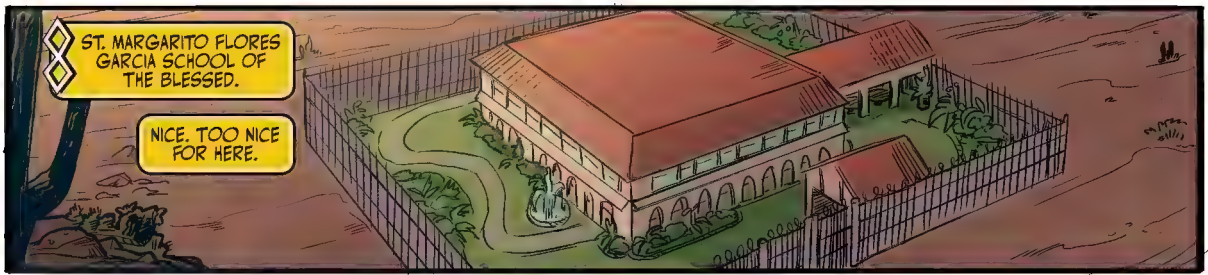
SHUT UP. I'M THINKING.

I CAN SEE THAT.



OKAY. WHAT IS THE MISSION?

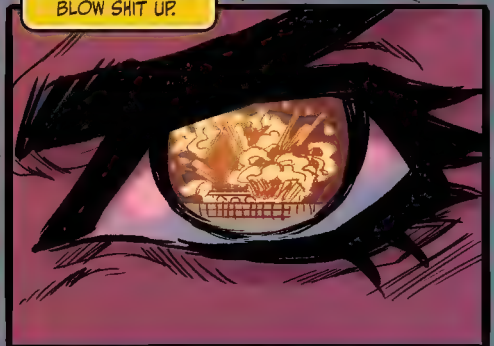




BUT
SOMETIMES...



...YOU JUST GOTTA
BLOW SHIT UP.







THIS.
IS.
NOT.
THE.
FUCKING.
MISSION.

OH MY
GOD...
ROGER.

CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE

Cartel

CARTEL #3





GOOD VAMP LEX

DOGMA

JENKINS
LIE
PRASETYA

OCTOBER
2017



DELPHI.

IT'S LATE.

IT'S DARK.

DO YOU KNOW
WHERE YOU ARE?

YES.

I'M RIGHT
HERE.



YOU'RE HERE.

YOU KNOW WHERE
YOU ARE. BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW WHY.

JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE
IN THIS MISERABLE CITY.



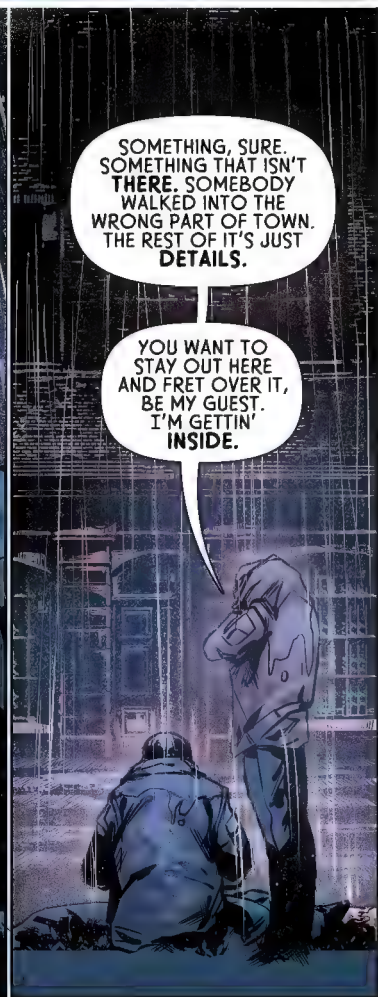
SENECA! NOTHING
DOWN THIS WAY!
FAR END OF THE
ALLEY OPENS UP TO
THE CITADEL!

WHY THE HELL
ARE WE GETTING
DRENCHED OUT
HERE OVER A
COUPLE OF
SACK-BACKS?




RAIN'S WASHED
EVERYTHING INTO THE
STORM DRAINS. RIGHT
NOW WE HAVE NO
WITNESSES, NO
MOTIVE, AND NO
EVIDENCE.

JUST A LOT
OF NOTHING.
BE NICE TO HAVE
SOMETHING FOR
A CHANGE.



SOMETHING, SURE.
SOMETHING THAT ISN'T
THERE. SOMEBODY
WALKED INTO THE
WRONG PART OF TOWN.
THE REST OF IT'S JUST
DETAILS.

YOU WANT TO
STAY OUT HERE
AND FRET OVER IT,
BE MY GUEST.
I'M GETTIN'
INSIDE.



RODGERS IS PROBABLY RIGHT.
YOU'LL TRY TO TRACE THE VICTIMS'
MEDIA USAGE AND YOU WON'T
FIND A THING, BECAUSE THIS KIND
OF VICTIM OWNS NO MEDIA

YOU WON'T FIND A NEXT
OF KIN TO NOTIFY.

YOU WON'T FIND
ANYTHING.



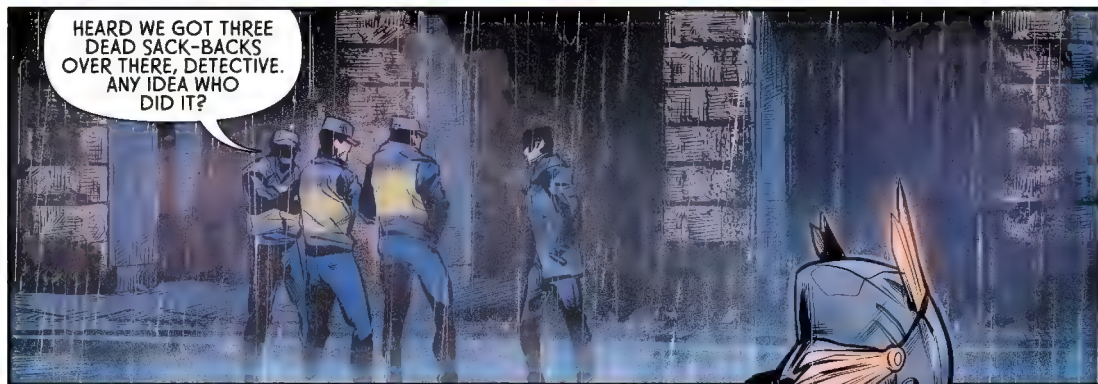
YOU ALREADY KNOW HOW THIS WILL END,
YET YOU'RE FLOUNDERING IN A RIVER OF
UNCERTAINTY. YOU BARELY KNOW
WHO YOU ARE, SENECA.

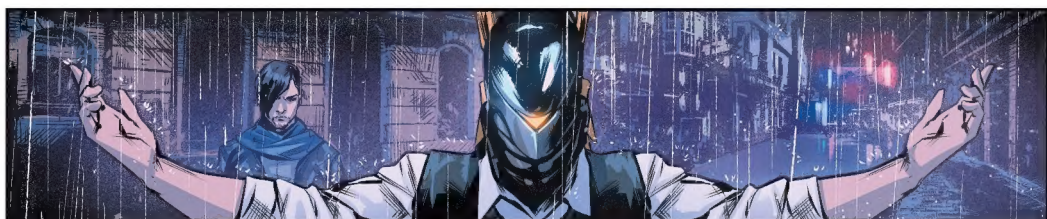
OR WHAT YOU'RE DOING
HERE. OR WHEN IT STOPS.
OR WHY.

ALL YOU KNOW
IS TROUBLE.



IT ALWAYS COMES IN THREES.





"It's a stellar addition to the Edenverse that incorporates many of Top Cow's best titles and ties them together. If you enjoy tense political thrillers with great visuals then this is for you."

— Spartantown

MATT HAWKINS • ATILIO ROJO

THE TITHE SAMARITAN

VOLUME 3

September 2017

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we create...icons!

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GOLGOTHA™

MATT HAWKINS • BRYAN HILL • YUKI SAEKI • BRYAN VALENZA

**This planet holds secrets—secrets that
could change the nature of mankind itself.**

OCTOBER 2017



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RATED M / MATURE



KEEP IT

